

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY OSD/ISA:JTYLER/EUR/RPM:EREHFELD:KS
APPROVED BY EUR/RPM:SJLEDOGAR
DOD/ISA:MGEN. BOWMAN
OSD:MR. KOMER

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 102649

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, MPOL

SUBJECT: ORGANIZATIONAL FOLLOW-THROUGH TO LTDP

1. CURRENT INSTRUCTIONS (IN SEPTELS) INDICATE UASHINGTON
ACCEPTANCE OF PARA 42 OF REVISED DRAFT REPORT ON LTDP
HITH SOME CHANGES. UNDER THE APPROACH IN PARA 42,
DPC IN PERMANENT SESSION IS TO MAKE ARRANGEMENT FOR
ENSURING EFFECTIVE FOLLOW-THROUGH FOR THE MEASURES
AP,ROVED UNDER THE LTDP. AS A SEPARATE ACTION,
APPARENTLY, THE SECRETARY GENERAL, IN CONSULTATION
WITH THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES WILL TAKE UP THE
PROBLEM OF STRENGTHENING THE INTERNATIONAL MACHINERY OF
NATO, BOTH CIVILIAN AND MILITARY, FOR THE NECESSARY
FOLLOW-THROUGH.

2. WE HAD COUNTED ON A DIFFERENT OUTCOME, SINCE
THE ORIGINAL MINISTERIAL TASKING HAD NOT SEPARATED
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ACTION ON THE LTDP RECOMMENDATIONS AND ON ORGANIZATIONAL
STRENGTHENING AND FOLLOU-THRO;GH. IT APPEARS AS OF NOW
THERE IS NO OTHER FEASIBLE OPTION OTHER THAN ACCEPTANCE
OF IS ,ARA 42 (AS CHANGED) BUT WE INTEND TO KEEP

PRESSING FOR ENDORSEMENT OF A FEW SPECIFIC MEASURES
LIKE THE ASG LOGISTICS (BY ELEVATING THE POSITION

OF DIRECTOR OF COUNCIL OPERATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS, AND REDISTRIBUTING FUNCTIONS AMONG THE THREE ASYG'S INVOLVED IN DEFENSE MATTERS) AND THE SINGLE MANAGERS IN THE LTDP REPORT. IF THE TERM SINGLE MANAGER CARRIES TOO MUCH CONNOTATION OF DIRECTING AUTHORITY OVER NATIONAL PROGRAMS, WHEREAS WE MEAN ONLY COORDINATING AUTHORITY, WE COULD ACCEPT MAKING SACEUR OR SACLANT THE "PROGRAM COORD,NATOR" WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATING ITS IMPLEMENTATION AND RECOMMENDING AP,ROPRIATE FOLLOW-THROUGH MEASURES.

3. 4E ASSUME LUNS AND PETRIGNANI ARE FULLY AWARE OF IMPORTANCE US ATTACHES TO AN ADEQUATE FOLLOW-THROUGH. DEFENSE IS PREPARING LETTER FROM SECDEF TO LUNS ON THIS POINT. MOREOVER, WE EXPECT SECRETARY BROWN WILL STRESS THIS POINT AGAIN IN HIS USUAL BILATERAL WITH LUNS AT THE DPC MINISTERIAL.

4. WE ALSO EXPECT TO RECOMMEND TO PRESIDENT CARTER THAT HE MAKE CLEAR AT THE SUMMIT THE IMPORTANCE OF ADEQUATE ORGANIZATIONAL, PROCEDURAL AND STAFFING SUPPORT FOR CARRYING OUT THE LTDP, AS SECRETARY BROWN IS EXPECTED TO DO AT THE DPC MINISTERIAL.

5. WE, OF COURSE, ARE NOT AWARE OF REASONING BEHIND LUNS' DECISION TO TAKE AWAY FROM EWG THE TASK OF CONFIDENTIAL

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RECOMMENDING FOLLOW-THROUGH MECHANISMS AND STAFFING FOR LTDP, ALTHOUGH WE CONSIDER IT LIKELY THAT HE HAS COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THIS MUST REMAIN A NAC/CBC RESPONSIBILITY WHICH CANNOT BE TURNED OVER TO THE DPC MINISTERS OR EWG.

6. FYI. WE MUST HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO INTRODUCE NATIONAL VIEWS EARLY IN THE PROCESS. WE ALSO CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT SACEUR AND SACLANT ARE BEST ,LACED TO HAVE SINGLE MANAGER-TYPE COORDINATING RESPONSIBILITY AND THAT SACEUR AND SACLANT WOULD PREFER TO HAVE THIS RESPONSIBILITY RATHER THAN LEAVE IT TO BRUSSELS HEADQUARTER COMMITTEES. END FYI.

7. THE LTDP WAS INITIALLY CONCEIVED, BUT POSSIBLY NOT ADEQUATELY PRESENTED, AS A UNIQUE MEANS OF MINISTERIAL MANAGEMENT BY EXCEPTION. WE WOULD LIKE TO RESTORE IT TO THAT SITUATION BY ENSURING ADEQUATE FOLLOW-THROUGH PERMITTING MINISTERS TO TAKE DECISIONS ON NATO DEFENSE

IMPROVEMENTS IN FULL AWARENESS OF PROGRESS OR LACK OF PROGRESS IN AGREED PROGRAMS.

8. WE WOULD APPRECIATE MISSION'S VIEWS ON HOW BEST
NOW TO PROCEED, SO AS TO ENSURE ADEQUATE MACHINERY
AND STAFFING FOR LTDP AFTER THE SUMMIT.

CHRISTOPHER

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